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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BRAZIL.

Sanitary reports from Rio de Janeiro—Plague.

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, *July 23, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the official sanitary reports for the week ended July 21.

There were 332 deaths from all causes, an increase of 20 if compared with the preceding week; 3 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, a decrease of 7; 4 deaths from yellow fever, a decrease of 2; 29 deaths from small-pox, the same as before; 2 deaths from typhoid fever, a decrease of 3; 3 deaths from diphtheria, none before; 3 deaths from whooping cough, none before; 1 death from plague and 1 death from lymphatitis *pernicioso* (that may be considered also as plague), none before; 1 death from beriberi, the same as before; 54 deaths from tuberculosis, a decrease of 1; no death from leprosy, a decrease of 1.

Respectfully,

W. HAVELBURG,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Sanitary report from Rio de Janeiro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL, *July 29, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit to you the official sanitary report for the week ended July 28.

There were 309 deaths from all causes, a decrease of 23 as compared with the foregoing week; 4 deaths from *accessio pernicioso*, an increase of 1; 3 deaths from yellow fever, a decrease of 1; 35 deaths from small-pox, an increase of 6; 3 deaths from enteric fever, an increase of 1; 2 deaths from diphtheria, a decrease of 1; 1 death from measles, none before; 3 deaths from whooping cough, the same as before; 3 deaths from plague, classified as lymphatitis *pernicioso*, an increase of 1; no death from beriberi, a decrease of 1; 50 deaths from tuberculosis, a decrease of 4, and no death from leprosy, none before.

During the first half of July, there were 632 deaths, being at the rate of 43.13 per diem, and corresponding to an annual death rate of 19.39 per 1,000, against 41.06 and 18.9 per 1,000 during the preceding fortnight.

There were 637 births—that is, an average of 42.46 per diem, corresponding to an annual birth rate of 19.54 per 1,000.

Plague.

Since the end of May, some few sporadic cases have been observed that after bacteriological examination have been ascertained to be cases of plague. The result of these few cases has been favorable. After inquiries it was shown that the cases were of persons who have shortly arrived here from Portugal. It did not lead to a spread of

infectious disease. By the sanitary authorities all the respective preventive measures have been adopted.

In one house on a street, that in hygienic circumstances is in a deplorable condition, there have occurred 2 cases that have resulted fatally and were registered with the diagnosis of lymphatitis. In these cases also it was the question of new arrivals from Oporto. Afterwards, when in the same locality 3 other cases of a suspicious infectious disease occurred, this disease was classified as plague in consequence of a bacteriological examination. The patients were transported to the isolation hospital and the persons who had been in contact with those patients were isolated and supervised. Of those 3 patients, 1 died in the hospital shortly after arrival. Under that impression, I sent you a dispatch on July 6. Another of the 2 patients died on July 15.

Since that time nothing has been communicated officially in regard to the existence of plague. But I have various motives, suspecting that other sporadic cases of plague have been observed, and I know that during the last week 3 or 4 deaths from lymphatitis (?) have been reported by physicians in their death certificates. It is self-evident that the question is treated with a certain discretion. I am not able to present proofs, and it is far from my intention to say anything that may cause or render suspicion to rest upon the sanitary authorities or give them annoyance.

It is certain, in any case, that up to the present time plague does not exist on any considerable scale.

The foregoing had already been written when I obtained trustworthy information to the effect that there has occurred during the last six days 1 case of plague every day. It is worthy of note that those cases have occurred in different parts of the city. The sanitary authorities have taken the precautions which the circumstances demand, but the existence of plague has not been officially declared. Consequently, the sanitary condition of the city is in a peculiar and uncertain state. It is possible that these cases may not be followed by others, but it is also possible that they may be the beginning of an epidemic.

Respectfully,

W. HAVELBURG,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Report from Belize—Fruit port.

BELIZE, BRITISH HONDURAS, *August 18, 1901.*

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended August 17, 1901:

Population, according to census of 1901, 9,114; present officially estimated population, 9,114. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 3. Prevailing diseases, malarial in character. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: August 16, steam-